

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 6 with the following redlined paragraph:

Figure 5A is an example screen display illustrating a portion of a data set from which a natural language query result was extracted. The portion displayed in text area 5A05 typically reflects the selected sentence that resulted from the query as well as a number of surrounding sentences in the document. Additional options are also available while viewing portions of the data set. For example, the user may select a sentence in text area 5A05 and select option "Sentences" 5A01 from the Search Similar Menu 5A04, causing the SQE to perform a syntactic search (using the search and indexing techniques described herein) against the data set using the selected sentence as a new natural language query. The search similar sentence functionality is described in detail with reference to Figures 5B and 5C. Alternatively, a user may select an entire paragraph and select option "Paragraphs" 5A02 from the Search Similar Menu 5A04. Selecting the Search Similar Paragraphs option causes the SQE to perform a search against the data set to return other paragraphs within the data set that contain content similar to the selected paragraph. The user may also select option "Documents" 5A03 from the Search Similar Menu 5A04, causing the SQE to perform a search against the data set to return other documents within the data set that contain content similar to the selected document. In an exemplary embodiment of an SQE, the paragraph and document similarity searches are preferably performed using latent semantic regression techniques as described in U.S. Patent ~~Application No. 6,757,646~~, ~~filed~~ issued on September 25, 2001 ~~June 29, 2004~~, and entitled "An Inverse Inference Engine for High Performance Web Search," which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. ~~Application Patent No. 09/532,605~~ 6,510,406, ~~filed March 22, 2000~~ issued on January 21, 2003, and claims priority from U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/235,255, filed on September 25, 2000, all of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety. One skilled in the art will recognize that other types of searches, including syntactic searches as described herein, may be implemented for the "Sentences," "Documents," and "Paragraphs" options. For example, a keyword search or one or more syntactic searches may be used.